



CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

April 19, 2013

Kittitas County
Community Development Services
411 N. Ruby Street, Suite 2
Ellensburg, WA 98926

RECEIVED

APR 19 2013

KITTITAS COUNTY
CDS

Attention: Mr. Jeff Watson, Staff Planner

Re: Notice of SEPA Determination – Helena Avenue Substation
City of Ellensburg Energy Services Department
(File No. SE-12-00005)

Dear Mr. Watson:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above-referenced SEPA application from the City of Ellensburg Energy Services Department to construct an electrical utility substation on Central Washington University property north of Helena Avenue and east of Airport Road to serve the Bonneville Power Administration line along Helena Avenue.

We have reviewed the documents provided in the SEPA application file and our comments are general due to the level of project information provided. We understand the proposal is to place a high voltage substation on an easement granted by CWU to the City in 2008 to serve the Bonneville Power Administration transmission line along Helena Avenue. Our concerns pertain to the exact location and the aesthetics of the proposed substation. The documents provided do not include any preliminary site plans or exterior elevation sketches. A conceptual drawing of the proposed project, which City Energy Services Department staff shared with us last week, does not address any existing site conditions. Aesthetics are a major concern because views of all four sides of the substation will be affected and obstructed by the substation.

The attached plan of the CWU north property shows the location of the 230 foot by 240 foot easement on the university's 53 acre parcel. It also shows how Chestnut Street will extend north in the future from Helena Avenue to a connected Greenfield Avenue. The proposal to place the substation on the easement as shown means attention will need to be given to the fact that the substation will be located adjacent to the Chestnut Avenue entrance gateway from the CWU campus to its currently undeveloped north property. Also, current and future site conditions, topography, existing detention ponds, irrigation, landscaping, and set back requirements need to be considered. Due to the current and future use of the CWU north property, the university is interested in working with the City of Ellensburg Energy Services Department during the development of the substation design and we are proposing an

alternative analysis be conducted to study reconfiguring and/or relocating the easement and substation to mitigate these concerns.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact the writer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bill Yarwood". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Bill Yarwood, Director,
Facilities Planning & Construction Services
Central Washington University
Office: 509.963.1120
Cell: 509.899.1304
E-mail: yarwoodb@cwu.edu

Attachment: CWU North Property Plan

CWU North Property: Future Actions



Sanders Road

Airport Road

Greenfield Ave

Helena Ave.

Chestnut

Utility Easment (Approximate)

--- CWU Property Boundary



Created: 4/11/2013
FWD: Scott Cobb
Image Date: 2011

